

ABSTRACT

A method for analyzing a given set of data and then compressing the data based on the analysis is disclosed. The method includes a system for compressing and managing data using, 5 for example, a computer based user interface. Also included are a plurality of compression algorithms that may be used to determine the optimal compression ratio for a given set of data. The algorithm that produces the optimal compression ratio may then be used to iteratively compress the given set of data. Preferably, each set of data may be managed, compressed, and decompressed based on the computer based user interface. This may allow a user to optimally 10 compress, and then decompress, selected sets of data as desired. The user interface, preferably a graphical user interface, may be capable of managing the compressed and uncompressed data. Preferably, the user interface allows data to be visually displayed and manipulated. The manipulation may include, for example, manually or automatically archiving, editing, compressing, and decompressing.